THE
Theatrical Observer,
AND
Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate nor set down aught in malice."

No. 563 Friday, Sept. 12, 1823. Price 1d.

HAY-MARKET.

The Highland Reel was repeated last night to a most numerous and genteel audience. This piece is rather flat in the first act, but in the second and third there are some comic incidents and amusing situations that make it, with the aid of two or three pleasing airs, pass off very agreeably. Mr. Williams rendered *Mc. Gilpin* entertaining. Mr. W. West, who acted *Charley*, we cannot praise for singing, but he was very assiduous to please by his acting, and was not altogether unsuccessful. He and Mr. Williams executed the *dumb* scene very well. Miss Love represented *Moggy* with spirit, and sang the air of "*Over the Water to Charlie*," with such sweet and just melody as to command an impatient encore. Her song of "*The Highland laddie*," was also encored. The other characters were for the most part suitably sustained. On the whole, *The Highland Reel*, was not done amiss; it certainly succeeded in entertaining the audience.

Mr. Liston, as *Shelty*, created much laughter.

Simpson and Co. and "*Fish out of Water*," concluded the amusements of the night.

ENGLISH OPERA HOUSE.

Mr. Mathews had his *hit* again here last night in *Dick Cypher*.—Mr. Rayner was applauded in *Jerry Blossom*, but he both deserved and obtained stronger marks of approbation by his performance of *Giles*, in the succeeding piece, *The Miller's Maid*; his representation, with Miss Kelly's *Phœbe*, formed a treat to the lovers of good acting. Mathews, revived, appeared again in *Colonel Fainwell*, in Mrs. Centlivre's cut-down Comedy of *A Bold Stroke for a Wife*. He was much applauded, particularly in his personation of *Pillage*, the old Steward.

Sadler's Wells.—This is the last week of the melo-drama of *The Island; or, Christian & his Companions*. The excellent acting of Mrs. Egerton, with the *Jack Grogem* of Mr. Lancaster, and the *Peter Pink* of Vale, has rendered this piece highly attractive. The former comic gentleman we hope to see at one of the winter Theatres.

(*From our Correspondent.*)

Surrey Theatre.—*The Maid of Genoa* still proves a source of attraction at this house. The piece improves on a better acquaintance. We were rather disposed from the impression the first representation left on our minds to be a little severe on the piece, but on recollection

that the nibbling of critics, like mites in cheese, depreciate to some, but enrich to others;—if this piece be not the best, we never saw one better acted. The gods most good-naturedly have, until last night, laboured to encore Mr. REEVE'S "*Grace Extraordinaire*," and his humorous song of "*Going to Richmond by Water*," but that gentleman was so provokingly comic, they lost all patience, and forced him back once again. *The Slave's Revenge* was, as on every preceding night, rapturously applauded. The house completely overflowed at half-price.

On Thursday, Mr. Young, one of the Greenock actors, met with a serious accident. While crossing over the spiked railing from one of the contiguous side boxes, he unfortunately lost his footing, and fell upon the spikes, one of which entered his right side, between the fifth and sixth rib, and perforated his lungs. At first he was found to be in a very weak state, breathing with much difficulty, and air escaping from the wound, but yesterday he was considered in less danger.

The decorations of Covent Garden Theatre are proceeding with great rapidity, and it is expected they will be completed by the 1st of October. The plan of decoration is quite new, and promises to combine great increase of splendour with additional comfort to the public.

That excellent singer, SINCLAIR, is arrived in London, preparatory to his appearance at Covent Garden Theatre, which will take place soon after the opening.

MR. DE CAMP is to open the Shrewsbury Theatre on Monday next for the Race week, and a short season.

DRURY LANE THEATRE.—Besides the general cleansing which this beautiful Theatre has undergone since the close of last season, some further alterations are at present making, preparatory to its re-opening on the beginning of next month. In consequence of the circumscription of the area of the audience part of the house last year, the public are aware that the Lessee was enabled to fit up twelve additional private boxes in the intervals between the lower lobby and the dress-circle. In the first circle, which is above the former, there was, from the same cause, a similar saving of space, which, in the hurry of opening the Theatre, was allowed to remain unappropriated during the whole of the past season. This space, or rather the compartments into which it is divided by the passages to the boxes, are now also fitting up into twelve more private boxes, to be hired on equally convenient terms as those attached to the dress-circle. The number of private boxes, however, on a level with the pit, will be reduced by four—two on each side farthest from the stage, in order to form new passages to the pit, to facilitate the ingress and egress to and from that part. It is said these alterations, together with various new machinery, dresses, decorations, &c. intended for the representation of *Kenilworth* on the approaching opening, will cost between two and three thousand pounds. This piece is proposed to be brought forth with surpassing splendour. It will present a most gorgeous pedestrian and equestrian procession by torch-light, after the manner of the spectacle of *The Coronation*. Mrs. BUNN is to represent the *Maiden Queen*, and is to enter *Lord Leicester's* Castle, mounted on a milk-white steed, whilst the gallant and favoured *Earl* is to accompany her on a coal-black charger. Mrs. BUNN, who all well remember as the attractive Miss SOMMERVILLE, has been celebrated in the provinces for her performance of *Queen Elizabeth*.

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Theatre Royal English Opera House.

This Evening, (2nd time) a new Operetta, called

A DUN A DAY.

The Music composed by Mr Reeve.

Old Rakely, (in love with nobody,) Mr ROWBOTHAM,
Young Rakely, (in love with Caroline) Mr BAKER,
Shirk, (in love with his place) Mr W. CHAPMAN,
Mr Bracelet, (a Jeweller—*Monday Dun*) Mr LODGE,
Mr Rigid, (a Money-lender—*Tuesday Dun*) Mr MEARS,
Mr Hermitage, (a Wine Merchant—*Wednesday Dun*) Mr SHIELD,
Mr Hay, (a Horse-Dealer—*Thursday Dun*) Mr SANDER,
Mr Plush, (a Master Tailor, in love with his ledger—*Friday Dun*
Mr BARTLEY,
Mr Capias, (an Attorney at Law—*Saturday Dun*) Mr MINTON.
Caroline, (in love with Young Rakely) Miss CARR,
Frill, (her Servant, in love with Shirk) Mrs. J. WEIPPERT.

After which, (38th time) a new ROMANCE, called,

PRESUMPTION.

Felix De Lacey, Mr BROADHURST, Frankenstein, Mr WALLACK,
De Lacey, a banished Gentleman, Mr ROWBOTHAM,
Fritz, Mr KEELEY, Clerval, Mr BLAND, William, Master Boden
Hammerpan, Mr SALTER, Tanskin, Mr MINTON.
(————) Mr T. P. COOKE,

Elizabeth, [Sister of Frankenstein] Mrs AUSTIN,
Agatha de Lacey, Miss L. DANCE, Safie, Miss HOLDAWAY,
Madame Ninon, [Wife of Fritz] Mrs J. WEIPPERT,

To conclude with, (7th time) an Operatic Entertainment, called,

Too Curious by Half.

Don Diego di Montilla, Mr W. BENNETT,
Don Lopez di Montilla, Mr J. KNIGHT, Charles Gripe, Mr BAKER
Col. Ravelin, Mr J. BLAND, Marplot, Mr WRENCH,
Tom, Mr R. PHILLIPS, Robert, Mr SAUNDERS,
Corregidor, Mr SHERIFF, Vasquez, Mr H. PHILLIPS,

Donna Theresa, Mrs AUSTIN, Donna Aurora, Mrs GROVE,
Isidora, Miss CARR, Isabinda, Miss HOLDAWAY,
Margaritta, Mrs J. WEIPPERT,

To-morrow, Hit or Miss, with A Dun a Day, & Guardians Outwitted

Theatre Royal, Hay-Market.

This Evening the comic Sketch in 1 act, called

MATCH-MAKING.

Mr. Matchem, Mr TERRY,
Colonel Rakeley, Mr VINING,
Shuffle, Mr HARLEY,
Captain Belmont, Mr JOHNSON,
Servant, Mr C. JONES,
Lady Emily, Mrs CHATTERLEY,

After which, the Operatic Comedy of

Sweethearts & Wives

With New Music, Scenes, and Dresses.

The Music by Messrs. WHITAKER, NATHAN, T. COOKE, & PERRY

Admiral Franklin, Mr. TERRY,
Charles Franklin, Mr. VINING,
Sandford, Mr DAVIS, Curtis, Mr WILLIAMS,
Billy Lackaday, Mr. LISTON,
Laura, Miss LOVE,
Eugenia, Miss CHESTER, Susan, Mrs GARRICK,
Mrs. Bell, Mrs C. JONES,

To conclude with a new Farce, in 2 Acts, with Songs, called

"Fish out of Water."

The Music composed by Mr PERRY.

Sir George Courtley, Mr POPE,
Alderman Gayfare, Mr YOUNGER,
Charles Gayfare, Mr VINING,
Steward, Mr WILLIAMS, Footman, Mr Wynne,
Sam Savoury, Mr LISTON,
Ellen Courtley, Miss LOVE, Lucy, Miss SMITH,

To-morrow, Twelve Precisely, with The Heir at Law, and Fish out of Water